

JAN 29 1970

GI Press Service

Vol. II No. 1

25¢ to GIs

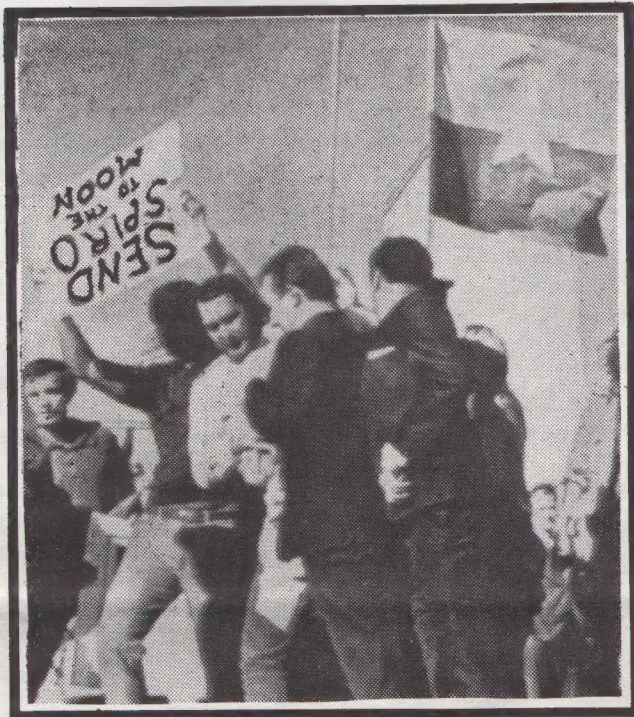
50¢ to civilians

January 21, 1970

AUSTRALIANS GREET

Spiro Agnew ... and

Allen Myers



inside:

- Report from Allen Myers on International Tour
- SMC National Student Antiwar Conference -- Feb. 14 & 15
- Pvt. Richard Chase Sentenced at Ft. Hood
- GI Coffeehouses attacked by Brass

Allen Myers "Apprehended" By Saigon Officials — denied entrance to Vietnam

(The following letter is Allen's account of his brief visit to Saigon which was unfortunately limited to less than an hour on an airplane. On a world-wide tour sponsored by the Student Mobilization Committee To End The War in Vietnam, Allen had planned to spend 4 days in Vietnam. For a report on the many other aspects of Allen's tour, see pages 8 and 9.)



January 9
Bangkok

Dear Everyone,

Well, as you'll have already guessed from the postmark, I didn't get into Saigon, though I tried. I flew from Hong Kong to Saigon yesterday afternoon on a Cathay Pacific flight even though the airline told me they received word that I wouldn't be allowed through immigration.

It turned out that they'd understated the case. The plane had hardly come to a stop at the terminal before the announcement came over the loudspeaker for everyone to have his passport ready for inspection as he left the plane. The chief of airport security was standing at the door of the plane and the moment he saw my name I was surrounded by half a dozen officials who wouldn't let me even set foot on the ramp. I told the security chief that while I supposed he had the authority to deny my entrance to South Vietnam, or to do anything else the American Embassy told him to do, I didn't think he'd lose his job if I was permitted to transfer to the plane scheduled to leave for Bangkok 45 minutes later (for which I'd made a reservation just in case,) but apparently, Tan Son Nhut will crumble into dust if a representative of the antiwar movement sets foot on the runway.

I was escorted back into the plane by all half dozen or so of the officials, who sat down surrounding me, apparently to guard against the possibility that I might break open the emergency exit and leap from the plane. One of them, named Hoan, was very chatty, although his English was not the best. He asked me to show him a picture of my "friends", by which it developed, he apparently meant people opposed to the war--whether in the U.S. or Vietnam, I'm not sure. Anyway, I told him he should try to find a copy of a newspaper that reported the November 15 Washington demonstration and then he could see a picture of 800,000 of my friends.

Hoan volunteered the information that he had studied at Michigan State University. I asked him if he was one of the people I'd read about in Ramparts. "Oh, no," he said. "This was a long time ago--1954-58." Three cheers for MSU.

He also kept assuring me that I might be able to visit Vietnam at some future date if I first obtained an "invitation" from the government, to which I replied that I thought I'd wait for the next government to come in, since I expect it to be much friendlier to my views than the present one. Hoan surprised me by responding--"Perhaps soon"--but in retrospect it seems to me he may have been referring to the possibility of getting an "invitation" from Thieu rather than what I was talking about.

Then the officials suddenly disappeared and were replaced by another crew of half a dozen, who were, they assured me, from the press. It may even have been true, although they seemed more interested in the names and addresses of people I had planned to contact than they were in anything that I would regard as newsworthy. Perhaps Vietnamese newspapers have a different idea of news than the American papers.

Anyway, just in case any of them were from the press, I made a statement into their tape recorder to the effect that representatives of the antiwar movement have visited South Vietnam in the past, and their refusal to allow me in now was a sign that Thieu is feeling a great deal less secure than he did a year ago. The "reporter" also wanted to know if the SMC would be sending another representative to Saigon; I said it was more likely that instead of sending more Americans to Vietnam that the SMC would bring half a million Americans home from Vietnam. And a few minutes later I was on my way back to Hong Kong.

SMC NATIONAL CONFERENCE SET FOR CLEVELAND--FEB. 14 & 15

College and high school antiwar activists, GIs and leaders of the antiwar movement are scheduled to converge on the campus of Cleveland's Case Western Reserve University next month to discuss, debate and decide on a future course for the student antiwar movement.

The GI antiwar movement will be a central topic of discussion, and it is expected that many active-duty servicemen will participate in the conference as a whole and attend and lead workshops on the GI movement.

The February 14 and 15 national conference called by the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam (SMC) is expected to be the largest and most representative student gathering to date. The SMC is encouraging ALL young people against the war interested in helping to chart the Spring program and strategy for the SMC and the student antiwar movement to come and participate in the conference.

The SMC is the largest and most organized high school and college antiwar group in the country. The SMC played a major role in building for the successful October 15 Vietnam Moratorium and, as an integral part of the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam coalition, was to a great extent responsible for organizing the large participation of young people who took part in the "Marches of a Million" in San Francisco and Washington D.C. on November 15.

Many SMCers feel that the perspective of forcing the U.S. government to immediately and totally withdraw all its forces from Vietnam can be realized if the potential and long range possibilities of mobilizing the masses of Americans in action against the war can be acted upon. What the organized student antiwar movement does is decisive in this respect.

In accomplishing this task, certain basic decisions must be made concerning the future direction and projected actions for the Spring.

Much discussion is expected on programs that the SMC is already involved in across the country such as: campus action against the war including mass

struggle against campus complicity with the war; high school organizing against the war; working with antiwar GIs; women's liberation and the fight against the war; the black liberation struggle and the fight against the war; how to effectively deal with political attacks on the antiwar movement.

Registration will open Friday, February 13 at 5:00 pm for those who come early at Case Western Reserve University Student Union, Thwing Hall, 11111 Euclid Ave., Cleveland Ohio 44106. Rooms in the Student Union will be available for informal workshops preceding the opening of the conference Saturday morning at 10:00 am. The first session of the conference will open at 10:00 am Saturday, February 14. Registration will begin at 9:00 am Saturday morning at the Student Union. Housing will be available.

For more information on the conference and literature available to build the conference, agenda, etc. send the coupon on this page to 1029 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 907, Washington D.C. 20005. Telephone: 202-737-0072. For information on housing and other conference details write to the Cleveland SMC, 2102 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115, telephone: 216-621-6516.



| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I plan to attend the conference. | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I will need housing; | | <input type="checkbox"/> I have a sleeping bag. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me <input type="text"/> copies of the GI call to the conference. | | | |
| (name) <input type="text"/> | | (rank) <input type="text"/> | |
| (ser.#) <input type="text"/> | | (base) <input type="text"/> (state) <input type="text"/> | |

RICHARD CHASE--SENTENCED

Private Richard Chase was convicted at a December 20 Court-Martial of refusing an order to train for riot control at Ft. Hood. He was sentenced to two years of hard labor at Leavenworth and a Dishonorable Discharge.

Ft. Hood is predominantly comprised of GIs who are back from Vietnam and serves as a priority riot control center. The military thinks that once GIs have been forced to wage war against the people of Vietnam, they will easily adapt to fighting against people struggling for justice in this country.

A year ago, last January, Chase was assigned to HHC 1/66th where he applied for Conscientious Objector status because he refused to participate in riot control training. At that time he was given "official C.O. status" and became a company clerk. However as he became involved in the GI antiwar movement at Ft. Hood, through the Oleo Strut Coffeehouse in Killeen and the GI newspaper at Ft. Hood -- Fatigue Press, the brass began to take a less benign attitude towards Chase. On September 11 they gave him a direct order to participate in riot control training -- an order they well knew he would refuse. Charges against him were read, and by Oct. 18 he was placed in the Ft. Hood Stockade. A major part of his pre-trial confinement was spent in solitary confinement during which time he was beaten four times by guards.

In the Court-Martial itself, defense attorneys Cam Cunningham, Jim Simons and Ken Cloke argued against riot control showing the unconstitutionality, illegality and political nature of riot control. They also exposed the stockade system as an institution which exists for the purpose of physically and otherwise intimidating GIs into being "good soldiers."

The Chase defense has received wide support nationally and in the Austin and Killeen area. During the trial itself, the courtroom was constantly crowded with GI and civilian supporters of Chase. The Richard Chase Defense Committee reports that many GIs showed their solidarity with Chase by flashing the V-sign and the clenched fist as they drove by the building where the court martial was taking place.

Appeals are presently being filed in both Military Appellate and Federal Courts. A suit is also being filed in Federal

Court against the U.S. Army. This suit consists of four major issues: the right of Chase to be tried by his peers rather than a board of lifers; the negligence of the Army to follow its own regulations with regard to CO status; (Chase was never given the proper forms when he requested CO status) the right of GIs to take part in political activities during off-duty hours while not in uniform; and the unconstitutional nature of riot control itself.

The Defense Committee will continue to lead the fight to free Richard Chase. They ask that petitions, letters and telegrams of support containing the two demands of the Richard Chase Defense Committee be sent to Maj. Gen. Beverly Powell, the commanding general of III Corps, and Maj. Gen. Wendell J. Coates, commanding general of the 2nd Armored Division. The 2 demands are:

- 1) The immediate freedom of Richard Chase and the dropping of all charges against him.
- 2) An end to the brutality and inhuman conditions in the stockade. The Committee asks that letters to Congress also request a Congressional investigation of stockade conditions. Copies of all protest should be sent to:

Richard Chase Defense Committee
c/o Oleo Strut
101 Avenue D
Killeen, Texas 76541



-- reprinted from Fatigue Press

BLACK BRIGADE FORMS AT BRAGG

A new organization has appeared at Ft. Bragg -- the Black Brigade. Working closely with GIs United Against the War in Vietnam -- the Brigade has announced that they are "here to stay until every vestige of racism has been destroyed!" The new group outlined plans in the Christmas issue of Bragg Briefs (published by GIs United) to put out a paper of their own called Do It Loud! The first issue is expected to come out by the end of January.

Shortly after the formation of the Black Brigade, the Bragg brass admitted that there were indeed racial problems in the Army. A six-day interracial seminar was promptly set up designed to "get to the

root causes of racial tension," according to Col. Charles K. Nulsen. Members of the Black Brigade participated in the discussion and made a number of demands. So far only one demand has been met -- a new hair cut regulation which allows four inches of hair on the top and two inches on the sides for both black and white GIs. Other demands included better MOS's for blacks such as clerical rather than infantry and artillery MOS's, and initiation of a black studies program.

Frederik Penn, an organizer of the Black Brigade estimated to a reporter for the New York Times that the Brigade was attracting between 50 and 100 men to its meetings.

GI ANTIWAR COFFEEHOUSES PLACED "OFF LIMITS"

The last few months have seen a concerted effort on the part of the army and local officials to close down GI coffeehouses. One of the first hit was the Shelter Half in Tacoma, Washington. A more recent target was the UFO coffeehouse in Columbia, S.C. The attacks indicate that the Army hopes to get rid of all coffeehouses that serve as meeting places for antiwar GIs.

The Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board moved to place the Shelter Half coffeehouse off limits. The Shelter Half has been a source of information about the Vietnam war and the antiwar movement for Ft. Lewis GIs over the past year. A hearing is set for January 22 to which staff and frequenters of the Shelter Half are invited to "show cause why it should not be placed off limits."

The Army's case for placing it off limits rests on "information which indicated that the Shelter Half Coffeehouse is a source of dissident counselling and literature and other activities inimical to good morale, order and discipline within the Armed Services."

A statement which has already been signed by hundreds of GIs is circulating at Ft. Lewis. It says in part, "Putting the Shelter Half off limits is not the answer to the morale problem in the Army. The answer is the immediate end to the war in Vietnam and ending the way the rank-and-file enlisted men are treated like animals."

Other actions by the Washington community include a mass demonstration which is scheduled for Jan. 22 -- while the show cause hearing is going on. Sponsored by a coalition of GI and civilian groups, the demonstration will demand that action against the Shelter Half be immediately dropped. Other demands of the demonstration are: end the war in Vietnam; free all political prisoners, abolish the stockade system, no troops for riot control, end racism in the armed forces, amnesty for all exiles, and end the draft.

The same coalition is sponsoring a mock trial of the U.S. military the night before the demonstration. The "trial" will hear testimony from active duty GIs, former stockade prisoners, Vietnam veterans, ghetto residents who have faced the military machine, and experts in modern warfare. A jury of active duty GIs will listen to the evidence and the meeting as a whole will pass sentence.

"The Army is scared because they can no longer brainwash the men," said a staff member from the Shelter Half. "They think that by keeping GIs from meeting together at the Shelter Half and from reading and talking to civilians, they can make more obedient soldiers..."

THE UFO - A "PUBLIC NUISANCE"

More recently, South Carolina police arrested four staff members of the UFO Coffeehouse in Columbia. One of the first

(con't. on page 6)

(con't. from page 5)

GI antiwar coffeehouses in the country, the UFO has been a gathering place for Ft. Jackson GIs and University of South Carolina students. The staff members were indicted on 8 counts and held on bond. The charges allege everything from displaying of "obscene material" to managing a "disorderly, ill-governed place" where fighting, cursing and loud noises generate a "public nuisance."

Jon Kraus, president of the South Carolina chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union attended the bond hearing and declared the indictments a "substantial farce."

A misdemeanor -- the maximum penalty for "operating a public nuisance" is 10 years imprisonment, a \$10,000 fine, or both.

The only conclusion that can be drawn from the Army's actions is that they are telling GIs officially what they can read and who they can talk to on their off-duty hours -- a clear interference with the constitutional rights of American servicemen. It is obvious that the Army prefers that GIs go somewhere for a good drunk rather than frequent establishments where ideas are discussed. If they are allowed to close down the coffeehouses, it will be the first time that a civilian establishment within the continental U.S. has been placed off limits by the military for ideological reasons. If successful, they will then feel free to act similarly towards many other places where GIs congregate including private homes, churches and offices. Civil libertarians and antiwar forces must bring a halt to such blatantly unconstitutional acts. Letters and telegrams of protest should be sent to:

Stanley Resor, Sec'y. of the Army,
Dep't. of the Army, Washington, D.C. and
the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control
Board, Headquarters 13th Naval District,
Seattle, Washington 98115.

ALABAMA HONORS ITS WAR DEAD

Pvt. Bill Terry who was killed in Vietnam, became the first black to be buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Birmingham, Alabama. His mother and wife had to obtain a court order to purchase the burial plot when the cemetery refused to bury Pvt. Terry because he was a black. Terry had asked that he be buried in Elmwood Cemetery if he didn't survive the war because the cemetery is near his boyhood home.

ON-BASE PROTEST RULED OUT IN DISTRICT COURT DECISION TO BE APPEALED

A Federal judge ruled before Christmas that antiwar soldiers do not have the same constitutional rights to protest on base that they have off base. The decision will be appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th circuit in Richmond according to Thomas Broadwater, one of the four lawyers presenting the suit. The ten plaintiffs in the case include the Ft. Jackson 8 defendants -- all members of GIs United Against the War in Vietnam. The eight GIs won their fight last Spring when the brass tried to court martial them for organizing and speaking out against the Vietnam war. All charges were subsequently dropped against them. While the defense against the Army's charges was in process, however, the GIs initiated a suit of their own against the Army's interference with their constitutional rights of free speech and assembly.

General Hollingsworth, the base commander, had refused to accept a petition requesting that he allow a meeting "to freely discuss the legal and moral questions related to the war in Vietnam and the rights of American citizens both within and outside the armed forces."

The Army's defense rested on the argument that the court had no jurisdiction in the case in question because all ten plaintiffs had either been discharged or transferred to other posts.

The decision made by Judge S. Russell said that the military establishment had authority "within certain limits" to restrict public discussion, meetings and distribution of printed materials.

The New York Times quotes the GIs attorney, Broadwater, as saying "Our contention is that a soldier has as much right to First Amendment rights as any other citizen. Unless the Army can show why it is necessary to take them away, he should have as much right to exercise them as anyone."

To Spec. 5 Robert
Lawrence, victimized
Saigon newscaster---
OUR THANKS FOR TEL-
LING THE TRUTH!!!!



WILL THE U.S. REALLY GIVE UP OKINAWA?

Jenyu Shimabukuro has been a farmer all his life. His family home in Chinaba hamlet is honored by the other villagers for its long history, and this reverence barely succeeded in preventing the destruction of the house in 1945 at the hands of the American occupation forces.

The Americans did not have any special hatred for Jenyu Shimabukuro; they simply wanted the land on which his house stood. Shimabukuro calls himself "one of the lucky ones." For other villagers from Chinaba hamlet lost everything they owned to the land hunger of the American military. Prior to the war, the hamlet existed in two sections. Both were evacuated during the battle for the island in 1945. When the villagers returned after the fighting, they found one of the hamlet's two sections occupied by American troops. Some 300 households lost part or all of the land they had been farming. The "lucky" Shimabukuro lost "only" 1000 of their 6000 tsubos. (The tsubo is the Japanese unit of land measurement and equals 3.3 square meters.)

The United States, to be sure, recognizes the "residual sovereignty" of the Chinaba farmers, whose land is today occupied by an ammo dump, to the extent of paying rent: a magnanimous 4¢ per tsubo per year. To rent land of equal fertility in the same region, these farmers must pay 10¢ per tsubo per month.

Satom Nakasone is the general secretary of the Okinawa Prefectural Reversion Council. In the Council's small office across the street from the modern, five-story concrete home of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands, Nakasone told me "the U.S. attitude is that they can do anything for which they can pay compensation." He went on to give me a brief history of the American occupation and a description of the present condition of Okinawa.

In the years immediately after the war, the U.S. forces ruled openly by right of military conquest, without any pretence of legality or consultation of the desires of Okinawans. The reversion movement in those days when there were few labor unions in Okinawa was led primarily by the island's teacher association. One of the early leaders was a teacher named Yara--today Okinawa's elected chief executive.

In 1952, in San Francisco, the U.S. and Japan signed a treaty putting a formal end to the state of war that had existed since 1941. Article 3 provided for the indefinite American rule of the Ryukyus as a U.N. trusteeship. April 28, the day on which the treaty took effect, is marked annually on Okinawa as the "Day of Humiliation." (The continued validity of Article 3, Nakasone told me, has been open to serious question ever since Japan joined the United Nations. Article 77 of the U.N. charter states that the U.N. cannot exercise a trusteeship over any part of the territory of a member state.)

The Okinawa Prefectural Reversion Council was organized in its present form in 1960. It includes the teachers' association, political parties, student organizations, women's organizations, and 52 labor unions, with the remainder of the island's 120 unions indirectly affiliated. The Council is therefore the largest organization on Okinawa.

"The American authorities tell us that the bases must remain as long as there is tension in the Orient," says Nakasone. "But we reply that the existence of American bases -- in Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam and so on -- is the cause of the tension." To illustrate his point, he cites the "tension" produced in the U.S. by the presence of Soviet missile bases in Cuba in 1962.

The Okinawa reversion movement is much more than an attempt merely to have Okinawa reunited with Japan. Nakasone stresses that the Reversion Council is basically an anti-war organization. It lists four demands: 1) abolition of Article 3 of the Treaty of San Francisco; 2) application of the Japanese Constitution, which prohibits war, to Okinawa; 3) removal of all military bases from the islands; 4) abolition of the Japan U.S. Security Treaty. These demands, the Council believes, must be met if there is to be peace in Asia.

No one I spoke with, consequently, felt that the communique issued by Nixon and Sato in November represented a solution to Okinawa's problems. Many even predicted that the scheduled reversion in 1972 might even make matters worse, if the Japanese government decides that it also wants military bases in the Ryukyus. Certainly the Nixon-Sato agreement did not

(cont. on page 10)

travels with

As was reported in the last issue of the GI Press Service, our editor--Allen Myers is presently on an international tour sponsored by the Student Mobilization Committee. Before becoming editor of the Press Service, Allen was in the army for 2 years, stationed at Ft. Dix. Refusing to give up his antiwar views upon donning a uniform, Allen won the distinction of being court martialed and acquitted on four separate occasions.

The purpose of the tour is to build stronger ties between the American and international antiwar movements. The tour has also provided Allen with an opportunity to speak to American GIs stationed overseas.

What follows is a synopsis of his travels and experiences to this date, compiled from Allen's correspondence to the national office.



hawaii

On December 10, Allen arrived in Honolulu for the first stop on his trip. He spoke to people in the coalition Moratorium group, which ranges in participation from SDS to Young Republicans to trade union members.

australia

From Hawaii, Allen proceeded to the first international destination on his tour--Sydney, Australia. He was greeted with a press conference at the airport, and spoke at a rally sponsored by the Vietnam Moratorium Committee. One of the

other speakers was Stuart West, a rank and file leader of the Waterside Workers Federation, who called for a general strike if the Australian government did not withdraw all its troops from Vietnam. Allen reported that the idea of a strike seemed to have some support, as "wharfies" earlier had refused to load munitions on a Vietnam-bound ship.

Allen participated in the Sydney antiwar demonstration and had this to say about it: "Police had denied a permit for a march in the street on the pretext that such a march would interfere with rush hour traffic. When demonstrators nevertheless left the sidewalks and filled the street from curb to curb for nearly two blocks, the police demonstrated their concern for traffic by blocking a whole series of intersections in an attempt to force demonstrators back onto the sidewalks. At one point, they stretched a line across the road that temporarily prevented marchers from moving forward either on the road or on the sidewalks. At this point, about one dozen demonstrators were arrested. The crowd finally succeeded in pushing through the police lines and completing the march to Town Hall."

On December 16, Al spoke at a rally sponsored by the Resistance, about the history of the American antiwar movement.



new zealand

Next he went to Auckland and Wellington, New Zealand. He reported that people in both New Zealand and Australia were very

allen



manila

encouraged by the recent upsurge in the anti-war movement in America. He spoke at Wellington's Victoria University at a meeting sponsored by a coalition called the Committee on Vietnam. He found that a serious handicap to antiwar activity in New Zealand is that there are very few formal guarantees of the right to conduct political activities in opposition to the government. Not only will police confiscate mimeograph and other materials, and harass political activists, but in parts of New Zealand, free speech is not recognized as a legal right. Another problem in organizing the antiwar movement in New Zealand is the fact that it has only 500 volunteer troops in Vietnam.

December 23, Al arrived in Manila and spent Christmas at Clark Air Force Base. There he had some interesting conversations with GIs. "Many of them were attached to the hospital and had their view of the war changed by seeing the patients flown into Clark from Vietnam. Many of these evacuees are amputees, often with more than one limb missing. These corpsmen mentioned, for example, an 18-year old with both legs amputated above the knee, and a 26-year old GI who lost the will to live and died because of worrying about how his wife would react to seeing him return with one leg gone. Another corpsman told me that he recently received news of a friend killed in Vietnam--the seventh friend he had lost there. The

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|---|---------|
| NEXT STOPS: | Thailand | * | Ceylon |
| | India | * | Lebanon |
| | Israel | * | France |
| | Germany | * | Denmark |

GIs I talked to described the views of the war at Clark as being divided into two categories: those opposed to the war and those trying not to think about it....Many of the guys express their intention to join the antiwar demonstrations as soon as they can get back to the U.S."

Allen had some interesting observations about the recent Philippine elections: "I have to explain a little bit about how well the Philippine politicians have mastered the fundamental principles of American style democracy. Example 1, in which President Marcos proves himself the equal of the finest Chicago ballot-box stuffers. In the recent elections, there were some 2,000 precincts, which in total, reported more than 300,000 votes for Marcos, and a grand total of zero for his opponent. The latter, an obvious spoil sport, requested an investigation by the election commission, which is called Comelec. Comelec completed its investigation with commendable dispatch and reported that it could find no evidence of any irregularities in the disputed precincts. Vox populi triumphs once again."

japan

In Tokyo, Al met with leaders of the Japanese antiwar movement, including the head of the Antiwar Youth Committee, which is opposed to U.S. involvement in Asia, including Vietnam, Okinawa, and American bases in Japan. Al also spoke at Hopei University at a meeting held in honor of Japan's first known antiwar GI. In Osaka, he spoke with an official of Beheiren, which means something like Citizens Committee for Peace in Vietnam, and includes adults and students opposed to the war. Mr. Tsurumi estimated that there are 350 Beheiren organizations in Japan, including 80 in Tokyo alone.

okinawa

Al also spent a good deal of time talking to people in Okinawa. Although he was not allowed to speak to GIs there, he did meet with native Okinawans. They expressed
(cont. on page 10)

(cont. from page 9)

to him their dissatisfaction with the nature of the Nixon-Sato agreement, and their hopes for greater cooperation with the American antiwar movement. As a member of the Okinawa Reversion Council told Al, "We believe your movement in the U.S. recovers the American traditions of 1776. Please tell the American people that what England did to the U.S. at that time, the U.S. is doing now to Okinawa." Other residents told him stories of exploitation by the occupying Americans, as well as ways that the residents of the island are made dependent on them. "The American authorities

(cont. from page 7)

intend the removal of the American bases.

Not that the bases are the only problem caused by the American occupation. It is difficult to describe the extent of the American domination, a domination which is not even "neo-colonial;" it is much more a pure and simple direct colonial rule of the sort that American schoolchildren are told ended when the British left India.

Even in a purely formal sense, the elected Government of the Ryukyu Islands (GRI) is a mere shadow, for all of its decisions are subject to the veto of the United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyus (USCAR). And USCAR, whose sole aim is to provide for the welfare of the U.S. military, exercises that veto frequently.

USCAR is everywhere. It owns the sea and airport facilities, the petroleum industry, the water and electric utilities, and 51% of the Bank of the Ryukyus. It also controls the prefectural lands -- which it sometimes rents to Okinawans. The Reversion Council estimates that these activities net USCAR profits of \$30 million a year. USCAR returns \$15 million of this in the form of a subsidy to the GRI -- about 10% of the GRI's budget. In Japan, the federal government subsidizes 80% of all prefectural budgets. The richest nation on earth, Mr. Nakasone pointed out, ought to be able to provide for the million people it rules against their will. But Okinawa's standard of living is 60% of Japan's.

(story to be continued in next issue)

tell us that the bases must remain as long as there is tension in the Orient, but we reply that the existence of American bases in Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam and so on, is the cause of the tension."

The latest letter we have received from Al is dated January 9, and is from Bangkok. To find out the full details of his inhospitable welcome and untimely departure from Saigon, see the article on page 3 of this issue of the Press Service. Further adventures from "Travels with Allen" will be continued in the next issue.



"If Alcatraz falls to the Indians, then San Francisco falls--then Oakland and Berkeley ...!"

CBS CENSORS ACTRESSES

President Nixon's November 3 speech was televised live on every station. Aside from its seeming, to many viewers, a waste of time, there was simply no other program to watch for those who wanted an alternative. Like it or not, TV fans heard what the President had to say on Vietnam.

Comments on the war made by actresses Carol Burnett and Elke Sommer did not fare as well, however. The New York Times reported that the two actresses urged Americans to write to Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr. on behalf of peace, when they appeared on the Merv Griffin Show. The Columbia Broadcasting Company deleted the actresses' pleas which were made in the course of the usual conversation which makes up the format of the Griffin show. Miss Burnett and Miss Sommer belong to an organization called "People for Peace."

STOP THE TRIAL!

by Roger Priest, U.S. Navy

Freedom of speech and of the press were established at the trial of John Peter Zenger two centuries ago. Yet, today the U.S. Navy -- backed by the fossil-like chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, L. Mendel Rivers, (D., S.C.) are planning to court-martial the First Amendment of the Constitution and thereby be in a position to smash the GI antiwar press.

The oft-postponed trial of this reporter will probably take place in the latter part of January or early February. It will be in this trial that the military for the first time will challenge the right of a GI to put out a paper on his own time, off-base and with his own funds -- a right supposedly guaranteed by the Constitution.

What started out on June 20, 1969 as four-and-one-half single-spaced, type-written pages listing 14 charges and specifications was reduced to eight charges and specifications when referred to trial August 28, 1969. After a hearing before Capt. B. Raymond Perkins, the military judge two more charges and specs were dropped -- these alleging solicitation to commit sedition and desertion through statements in OM.

But the system struck back and the convening authority, Rear Adm. George P. Koch, Commandant Washington Naval District, ordered that the dismissed charges be reinstated.

My lawyers were not disturbed by this new interference into the trial proceedings. They carried the issue up to the Court of Military Appeals, which on Dec. 20, 1969, ordered Koch to answer our charge that he applied command influence on the military judge in ordering that the charges be reinstated.

No matter what decision is finally reached by the Court, a trial will take place on the six counts under Article 134 Uniform Code of Military (In)Justice which have remained intact to this date. It is under this notorious catchall provision of the code that I'm being charged with the "crime" of "advising and urging insubordination and disloyalty with intent to interfere with, impair and influence the loyalty, morale and discipline of military and naval forces" through statements in OM "which said pamphlet which in its entirety contained statements disloyal to the United States."

If found guilty of this "crime of speech" I could receive a dishonorable discharge and up to 39 years in jail. The ridiculousness of the charges and its obvious repressive intent does not need expanding upon, except to say that as an American citizen I have been speaking and writing the truth as I see it to be. If that be a "crime" it is one I PROUDLY admit! And I might add that I am more than willing to measure my "crime" against those who have perpetrated the illegal and immoral war in Vietnam.

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press are not liberties that are won easily and are not liberties to be given away easily. L. Mendel Rivers may well get the court-martial that he ordered and the Navy may get the conviction that it wants so desperately. But I tell it to you straight; it will be WE -- not THEY -- who will have the last word. Pray for the aged. We are the only damn younger generation they have got. Think about it. But meanwhile: DARE TO STRUGGLE. DARE TO WIN!

--reprinted from OM

TAXPAYERS COUGH IT UP PATRIOTICALLY

The fact that 68.1% of the taxpayer's dollar is destined for military spending is a hard pill for most Americans to swallow. To make it just a little harder, the IRS has published a new red, white and blue form which replaces both the old 1040 "long

form" and 1040A card that taxpayers have used previously. The heart and pocket rendering task of settling affairs with the Internal Revenue Service is expected to be accomplished this year, we gather, with patriotic enthusiasm.

"Don't Mention Anything About Laos — We Haven't Told Him Much About That"

On November 3, President Nixon revealed the existence of a new phenomenon in our midst -- the "Silent Majority!" Since then, the administration has found it necessary to display all manner of evidence aimed at convincing the public that such a thing really exists.

Their first tact was a public viewing of the letters and telegrams of support received by Nixon after his speech. But lo and behold, it was soon reported that at least some of these greetings had been traced to a single mysterious post office box in Georgia. Then Sen. Young read a letter he'd received from an Ohio National guardsman into the Congressional Record. The letter reported that pressure from their commander had been exerted on the guardsmen to send form letters of support to the President.

If we in the states who are living side by side with all these silent people deserve such inculcation about who they are -- the men in Vietnam, 10,000 miles away obviously deserve to know too. To clear up whatever confusion they may have over the whole thing, a pamphlet entitled "The Silent Majority" has been prepared by the U.S. Command in Vietnam for GIs. According to an article written by James P. Sterba in the Dec. 18 New York Times, a Lt. Col. Marvin L. Shiro claims the pamphlet as his idea. The article says that "Col. Shiro is chief of the command information division of command headquarters here, which he said monitors all internally produced news and information for troops 'for policy and propriety'". According to the article Shiro said "the pamphlet would show troops in the field a sample of the letters sent 'every day to commanders in Vietnam in support of the war policies.' He said he did not know how many letters arrived every day but said many were received."

Recalling the letter of the Guardsman read into the Congressional Record makes one wonder how many of the letters Shiro speaks of were written under the threatening gaze of a commanding officer.

Apparently asked why the pamphlet was being published, Col. Shiro frankly stated "We've been hearing a lot of publicity here about the Moratorium back in the states, then all of a sudden this silent majority



thing came out and we just thought we should get this out to the troops."

The "Silent Majority" is not the only educational piece put out by Col. Shiro's office. There are many more efforts to set the GIs straight on a variety of topics. The same Times article reports that "A recent sampling... carried these titles: 'Safe Weapons,' 'The Inspector General and You,' 'Grass, Tea, Pot,' 'Congress: The Keystone of Democracy,' 'Communism,' and 'Free World Assistance in Vietnam.'"

Aside from being fairly prolific, it seems that the Command Information Division is also creative when it really wants to get across an idea. "All of these pamphlets," reports the article, "but one were printed in black ink. The exception was the pamphlet on communism, published last month. It has a cover showing a large white star, hammer and sickle on a red background. Inside, the text is printed in red ink."

A December 18 article in the Washington Post reported that the military establishment is worried about the rate of reinlistments among first-termers and even lifers sinking to a record low. In an attempt to curb the unprecedented plunge, the military put up over \$120 million for special cash bonuses in 1969. Under the bonus plan a man who re-ups after his first term can receive a cash bonus of up to \$10,000, depending on his specialty and rank.

But even this didn't do the job. Military planners are so worried about the low rate of reinlistments that they foresee drastic problems in assuring "a corps of professionals" according to the Post. "We are hurting," a high Pentagon official said. "When it comes to keeping the first-termers, we're really scraping."

The Post reporters interviewed servicemen and found that they "were concerned over their image, partly because of antimilitary sentiment and partly because of the tarnish on their image brought on by erring members of the military establishment. That concern is causing many to leave the service."

The military does not consider the problem confined to the enlisted ranks alone. "There is a critical shortage of junior officers, and the retention problems in some cases are even worse than among key enlisted men."

It would seem that this whole problem bears heavily on Nixon's projection of an all-voluntary armed services. After all, if the military can't hold on to the people it has, what reason is there to believe that it can attract enough personnel on a volunteer basis?

Luckily, the problem isn't ours. In fact, it is we who deserve the credit for creating it. The movement against the war in Vietnam has educated millions of Americans about the role of the

military, and as the war continues, the ideas of the movement will permeate even more deeply into our society. Billions of dollars in bonuses will not save their army. In the end, the only thing that can do that is an army made up of soldiers who think there is something to fight for. Mounting numbers of both GIs and civilians see nothing to fight for in Vietnam except the immediate return home of all U.S. troops so that the Vietnamese can determine their own affairs.



CAMP ASAKA, JAPAN--NO LONGER A GOOD DUMPING GROUND FOR DISSIDENT GIS

"The military has been able to use Asia as a dumping ground for GIS it considers a problem, because it's more difficult for them to find civilian support here. But we're planning to change that," the young American civilian told me. We were speaking in the Tokyo office of Beheiren: "Citizens' Committee for Peace in Vietnam."

And, in truth, the situation is already beginning to change. Japan, at least has become much less of a "dumping ground" than it once was. There are -- so far -- three GI papers: HAIR (Human Activities In Retrospect), a Black Power paper produced at Masawa Air Force Base; Kill for Peace, put out by GIS at Camp Drake in Asaka; and an Asian edition of WE GOT THE brASS. In the case of HAIR, the "dumping ground" procedure has worked in reverse: this fall, four GIS suspected of being connected with the paper were hastily returned to the United States. (If any one stationed in Asia is homesick, this could indicate an opportunity.)

But the three GI papers are only a part of the problem which the brass is facing in Japan these days. The Japanese antiwar movement has been making approaches to American GIS and has met with a good response. At the Beheiren office, I had the privilege of interviewing Professor Haruki Wada, a leader of a group which the commander of Camp Drake (Camp Asaka) likes to call the "Oizumi Citizens Council." The correct name of the group is "Oizumi Citizens for a Just Peace in Vietnam and the Removal of Camp Asaka."

The people of Oizumi have been fighting for several years for the removal of the U.S. base, but it was only in September of 1968, Professor Wada said, that they hit upon the idea of bringing their message to the GIS. They began by distributing leaflets to the GIS on the base, often by passing them through the fence.

In June of this year, the Oizumi citizens added an additional tactic: broadcasting through loudspeakers to the GIS within the base. The messages broadcast in this manner included news of the antiwar movement in the U.S. and Japan, speeches by Bertrand Russell, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mrs. King, and Dr. Benjamin Spock; and the text of an article by a Japanese journalist describing the destruction of villages in Vietnam,

At first, there was little open response by the GIS at Camp Drake, but gradually this changed. A popular program broadcast in August was titled "The Voice of Japanese Citizens," and consisted of translations of remarks by the Japanese man-in-the-street in response to questions about the Vietnam war and the presence of American bases in Japan.

In October, "Radio Camp Must Go" increased its activities, partly because the brass had stopped the distribution of leaflets by declaring a six-foot strip just inside the fence off limits, and partly to inform GIS about the plans for the October '15 Moratorium Day demonstrations. Messages broadcast included statements of solidarity with the American antiwar movement, letters received from the papers the Bond and Head-On, and a statement by a member of the Black Panther Party who was visiting Japan. Many GIS came to get the copies of WE GOT THE brASS which the broadcasts offered, and several who were near their ETS said they intended to join the Black Liberation or antiwar movements when they returned to the U.S.

On October 15, the broadcast consisted of a musical program. Two GIS later approached the Oizumi Citizens and said in some amazement: "You were telling the truth" (about the Moratorium Day in the U.S.); the brass apparently had been engaged in their usual practice of spreading lies within Camp Drake.

Recently Camp Drake's brass has succeeded in making itself look even more foolish. On December 14, a GI within the base responded to the broadcasts -- as many GIS do these days -- by making the peace sign. Two MPs who happened to be going by told him to stop. He didn't. So the MPs arrested him, put him in their car, and drove off, with the determined GI still flashing the peace sign through the rear window. Unfortunately for the brass, a Japanese TV cameraman happened to be on the scene, and that night the entire nation was treated to a view of American democracy in action.

The broadcasting at Camp Drake has now been expanded to include Army hospitals at Kishini and Zama and the navy base at Koda. The example certainly deserves to be imitated; if it spreads it could result in the brass losing their last "dumping ground."

The following petition is being circulated by Reservists and National Guardsmen. We urge you to reproduce and circulate it.

RESERVISTS AND NATIONAL GUARDSMEN
SAY "NO" TO THE WAR

We, the undersigned, are officers and enlisted men of the United States military Reserve forces.

We wear the same uniform as the American troops being killed and maimed every day in Vietnam. We want those soldiers home, alive.

We demand total withdrawal of ALL our fellow American soldiers from Vietnam now. Not just combat troops, not just ground forces, but ALL troops.

We demand total withdrawal now of all American soldiers advising the armies of dictatorships throughout Latin America and Asia. We don't want Guatemala, Thailand, or Bolivia to become the Vietnams of the 1970's. One Vietnam is enough; too many people have been killed already to preserve America's overseas empire.

As men who have served in the armed forces, we have seen first hand the dangerously growing power of American militarism. As soldiers and as citizens we believe we have a special obligation to speak out against it.

FOR THE PENTAGON-IT WAS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

On December 30 -- a month and a half after the massive November 15 antiwar demonstration in Washington, the Defense Department conceded it had erred in estimating the number of people on the march. Their original figure was 119,000 at the rally's peak. It turns out, according to the New York Times, that the basis for this figure was an aerial photo taken "possibly as late at 4 p.m." rather than, at 2:30 as they had earlier reported.

The official estimate given by the organizers of the march was 800,000 at its peak.

CALLEY RALLY A FLOP
SUPERPATRIOTS DISAPPOINTED

ATLANTA -- Superpatriots have been trying to turn Lt. William Calley, accused of playing a major role in the Song My massacre, into some sort of a military hero.

Last month, members of the American legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars planned a rally in support of Calley. They expected 3,000 people, but only 34 showed up.

The organizers of the pro-Calley movement, while "depressed" about the poor turnout at the rally, haven't given up. Now, they plan a petition drive to "protest the unjust and unwarranted charges" against Calley. The petitions are being circulated through Legion and VFW posts throughout the Southeast.

The prosecution of Calley by the Army, the petitioners argue, is "playing into the hands of the Communists."

reprinted from LNS

The last issue of GI Press Service, was canceled because of the holidays.

The GI Press Service is published bi-weekly by the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, 1029 Vermont Ave. NW, Room 907, Washington D.C. 20005. Tel. (202) 737-0072.

Any material may be used by GI papers, with or without acknowledgement of the GI Press Service. Articles from other publications and signed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the GI Press Service or the SMC.

GIs are encouraged to submit articles for publication; names of GI authors will not be printed unless specific permission to do so is given.

Subscription rates:

Free to GI papers
Individual GIs -- \$1.00 per year
Civilians ----- \$5.00 per six months
\$8.50 per year

Acting editor

Barbara Chis

GI ANTIWAR PAPERS

The antiwar papers listed below are published by or for GIs. We would appreciate being informed of any we may have missed, or of any addresses we have not been able to discover.

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| About Face (Pendleton) Box 54099 Terminal Annex Los Angeles, Cal. 90054 | Aboveground (Ft. Carson) Box 2255, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901 | Duck Power c/o San Di- ego Free Press, 751 Tur quoise, S.D., Cal. 92109 | Dull Brass (Ft. Sher- idan) 9 S. Clinton Rm. 225 Chicago, Ill. |
| A Four-year Bummer (Cha- Box 2325 nute) Champaign, Ill. 61820 | The Ally Box 9276 Berkeley, Cal. 94709 | Fed Up! (Ft. Lewis) Box 414 Tacoma, Wash. 98409 | Final Flight (Hamilton) Box 31387 S.F., Cal. 94131 |
| Baumholder Gig-Sheet (Germany) same address as ACT | Bayonet (Presidio of SF) Box 31387 S.F., Cal. 94131 | Fun, Travel & Adventure Box 336 (Knox) Louisville, Ky. 40201 | G.A.F. (Barksdale AFB) 525 Wichita Shreveport, La. 71101 |
| ACT, c/o Rita Act 10 Passage du Chantier Paris 12, France | Counterpoint (Lewis & 515 20th E. McChord) Seattle, Wash. 98102 | Graffitti, c/o Plitische Buchhandlung 3 Schiffgasse 69 Heidelberg, Germany | Heresy II (Ft. Leonard- wood) no mailing add. |
| Anchorage Troop P.O. Box 8575 Anchorage, Alaska 99504 (Ft. Richardson & Elmen- dorf AFB) | Fatigue Press (Ft. Hood) 101 Ave. D Killeen, Texas 76541 | Left Face (D.C. area) no mailing address | Marine Blues (MC re- Box 31387 serves) S.F., Cal. 94131 |
| Broken Arrow (Selfridge) Box 9571 North End Sta. Detroit, Mich. 48202 | The GI Organizer (Hood) Box 704 Killeen, Texas 76541 | OM (D.C. area) c/o Link 1029 Vt. Av NW, rm 200 Washington, D.C. 20005 | Open Sights (D.C.) 1029 Vt. Av. NW, 907 Wash. D.C. 20005 |
| Eyes Left! (Travis AFB) Box 31387 S.F., Cal. 94131 | The Looper (Cal. Nat. Box 31387 Guard) S.F., Cal. 94131 | The Retaliation (base & mailing address unknown) | Rough Draft Box 1205 Norfolk, Va. 23501 |
| Gigline (Ft. Bliss) Box 31094 Summit Hts Sta El Paso, Texas 79931 | The Obligore (NAS N.Y.) Box 732 New York, N.Y. 10022 | Short Times (Ft. Jack- son) Box 543 Columbia, S.C. 29202 | SPD News (Ft. Dix) Room 633, 156 5th Av. New York, N.Y. 10010 |
| Flag-in-Action (Camp- Box 2416, New bell) Providence, Tenn. 37040 | Rap! (Ft. Benning) Box 894 Main Post Office Columbus, Ga. 31902 | Truth Instead (Treasure Box 31387 Island) S.F., Cal. 94131 | The Ultimate Weapon 156 5th Av. #633 (Dix) Philadelphia, Pa. 19101 |
| Left Face (Ft. McClellan) Box 1595 Anniston, Ala. 36201 | Shakedown (Ft. Dix) Box 68 Wrightstown, N.J. 08562 | Vets Stars & Stripes for Peace, Box 4598 Chicago, Ill. 60680 | Vietnam GI Box 9273 Chicago, Ill. 60690 |
| Open Ranks Box 9783 Eudowood Branch Baltimore, Md. 21204 | U.S.A.F. (Wright-Patter- son AFB) mailing address unknown | Your Military Left (Sam Venceremos Box 561 Houston) San Antonio, Tex. 78206 | same as WE GOT THE brASS |
| The Pawn Box 481 Frederick, Md. 21204 | Where It's At 1 Berlin 12 Postfach 65, Germany | Aerospaced (Grissom AFB) Box 1015 Kokomo, Ind. 46901 | WE GOT THE brASS 6 Frankfurt 1 P.O. Box 2441 Germ. |
| 2nd Front International Upplandsgatan 18 Stockholm, Sweden | As You Were (Ft. Ord) Box 1062 Monterey, Cal. 93940 | The AWOL Press (Ft. Riley) Box 425 Manhattan, Kansas 66502 | Up Front Box 60329 Term. Annex Los Angeles, Cal. 10060 |
| The Second Front M. Billaudot, 33 Rue Van Hier, 92-Boulogne, Fr. | The Bond Room 633, 156 5th Av. New York, N.Y. 10010 | Bragg Briefs (Ft. Bragg) Box 437 Spring Lake, N.C. 28309 | The Oak (Oakland Nav. Hosp) Box 31387 S.F., Cal. 94131 |
| | Task Force (Bay area) Box 31268 S. F., Calif. 94131 | Top Secret (Devens & Boston) P.O. Box 513 Cambridge, Mass. 02139 | |

Ask yourself:

When the Vietnamese defeated the French at Dien Bien Phu and forced them to completely with-
draw from Vietnam, why didn't the Geneva Convention divide up France instead of Vietnam?????